

# WHY BANKS JOINED FIGHT AT ALBANY TO THROTTLE LOCKWOOD INQUIRY REVEALED

Testimony Shows Big "Hold Up" of Builders Seeking Mortgage Money.

GOUGED ON LOANS.

Forced to Pay From 10 to 50 Per Cent—Tricks to Evade Usury Law.

Just why the banks of this State joined the fire insurance companies in the desperate fight at Albany last winter to throttle the Lockwood Committee and bar Samuel Untermyer from probing into the mortgage loan situation was very apparent today. Mr. Untermyer disclosed the reasons at yesterday's session by the testimony of half a dozen witnesses.

It showed a grand "hold up" of builders seeking mortgage money, defiance or evasion of usury laws, the piling up of fees and bonuses and brokers' charges; extortion by compelling the borrower as a precedent to getting a loan to purchase other properties he did not want, or taking his loan in Liberty Bonds at par when they were selling at 95; in fact, compelling him to pay all the way from 20 to 50 per cent, to get a loan at all, and interest on the loans themselves ranging as high as 10 per cent.

The testimony introduced on this subject contained the names of several of the largest life insurance companies and various trust companies and savings banks, and disclosed that these concerns gave the loan seekers no choice in the matter whatever, laying down ironclad rules to the effect that they could obtain no money unless they agreed to the lender's staggering terms.

Through the testimony of Abel King, a broker, who admitted having collected \$337,319 in bonuses on loans amounting to \$1,450,000. Mr. Untermyer showed a case which he claimed furnished a good example of what seekers of second and third mortgages have been forced to contend with. King took the stand to explain a deal in which he was accused by an investigator for the committee of having charged 125 per cent.

He said he had lent \$10,750 upon a mortgage, the face amount of which was \$15,750. He charged the borrower 6 per cent, interest upon the face amount which he had never advanced to him, requiring him to pay the face amount in five years. In this way he not only collected a \$5,000 bonus but forced the borrower to pay him interest upon the amount of this bonus. He said the borrower had suggested these terms to him, because he had been "running all around town for several days" and had found he could not do any better elsewhere.

Sidney W. Hughes of Hughes & Hammond, No. 24 Pine Street, who handles a large part of the business for the Prudential Insurance Company and the Mutual Life, furnished many striking instances.

Mr. Hughes testified to obtaining a \$1,450,000 loan for Ephraim B. Levy, who gave George Becker \$25,000 to be paid as tribute to Brindell. The loan was upon the property upon which Brindell collected this graft, and it was for about half of the value of the property.

**BORROWERS FORCED TO ACCEPT AMT.**

The Mutual Life Insurance Company, Mr. Hughes testified, advanced \$1,400,000 of this amount, and as a part consideration for so doing compelled Mr. Levy's company to buy tenements and vacant lots scattered throughout the city which it had taken at foreclosure proceedings, at a valuation of \$650,000. Of this sum, \$100,000 was credited upon the loan, the remaining \$550,000 being covered by mortgage.

Mr. Levy was forced to pay a brokerage commission of 2 per cent.

Mr. Hughes testified that he was affected regarding the value of the property the Mutual Life unloaded upon Mr. Levy through this transaction.

Cases in which Liberty Bonds and Victory Bonds were forced upon borrowers at par were quite numerous in the testimony of Mr. Hughes, and other witnesses.

Lawrence Blake & Jewell, brokers, told how the Brooklyn Savings Bank required the North River Building Corporation to take the entire amount of a \$240,000 mortgage loan in Victory Bonds at par, and how these bonds were sold at the time for the borrower, bringing considerably less than the bank had received for them.

He told of a similar transaction involving the Excelsior Savings Bank at 22d Street and Sixth Avenue.

Mr. Hughes told of transactions in which the Prudential Insurance Company forced borrowers to take parcels of property in the suburbs and in neighboring parts of New Jersey in part consideration for loaning them money.

**MISS MARGARET CHUBB TO WED.**

Cards are out for the marriage of Miss Margaret Alice Chubb, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hendon Chubb of Llewellyn Park, Orange, to James Russell Parsons of his city, son of the late James Russell Parsons, Consul General to Mexico under President Roosevelt, and daughter of the Board of Regents of New York State. The wedding will take place tomorrow noon in St. Mark's Church, West Orange, N. J.

## STADTMULLER WILL TELL OF BRINDELL'S HARVEST OF GRAFT

Ready to Go Before Lockwood Committee—Mentions One Levy of \$40,000 "Dues."

Peter Stadtmuller, business agent of the House Shovelers and House Wreckers Union, convicted last week of extortion and coercion, appeared for sentence today before Justice McAvoy in the criminal part of the Supreme Court. Assistant District Attorney Pecora announced that he had consented to an indefinite postponement of sentence because of the willingness of Stadtmuller to aid the State.

Mr. Pecora explained afterward that Stadtmuller had promised to go before the Lockwood Committee on Housing, or a sub-committee if the committee was too busy with its present investigation of the misuse of trust funds by financial institutions, for exacting exorbitant charges for building loans, and tell all he knew about Robert P. Brindell's private blunder as President of the Building Trades Council. Stadtmuller says Mr. Pecora stated that he turned over to Brindell \$40,000 as "dues" collected from non-union nonwreckers for permission to work on buildings over which the council had power through its control of other building trade unions. He also promised to tell of all the sums collected and handed to Brindell by the eight walking delegates of the allied trades with the dock builders, of which Brindell was the particular dictator.

Stadtmuller resumed the stand today to continue his testimony of yesterday against Joseph McAvoy, an associate walking delegate, who was indicted with him on the charge of extorting \$1,000 from Max Minson, a house-wrecking contractor, as the price of not calling a strike on a job in Maiden Lane. Stadtmuller said Minson "spotted" Minson's job and told Stadtmuller there was a chance for them to make \$200 each out of it. But he insisted that neither he nor Minson got a cent of the \$1,000 paid by Minson, which was put into an envelope, he said, addressed "Robert P. Brindell, Personal," and handed to the leader.

## PRIVATE MARRIAGE FOR MARLBOROUGH

Duke and Miss Deacon May Be Wed at British Embassy in Paris.

LONDON, June 3.—The formal announcement of the engagement of the Duke of Marlborough to Miss Gladys Deacon, predicted weeks ago in these despatches, has hardly taken their place here by surprise. The wedding is expected to be as private as can be managed and probably will take place at a register's office in England or at a British Embassy abroad, probably Paris. Miss Deacon was the most intimate girl friend of the Duke's former wife, and as a maid-servant, to console Vanderbilt at her marriage twenty-six years ago.

The Duke has a small house in Westminster where he lives when in London, but of course, he also has Blenheim Palace, which is more and more of a white elephant. The social bar against divorced men in English society has become practically non-existent of late years and when the individual is a Duke it has no effect whatever, so the new Duchess of Marlborough will have a pleasant situation in London society she chooses to occupy short of being presented at court as Queen Mary has strict ideas about divorced persons marrying.

## STARVED TO DEATH IN A DORY AT SEA

Long Fisherman's Body Brought In From 25 Miles Off Highland Light.

BOSTON, June 3.—A body was found today in an open boat, upon which life boat or water was discovered here today when the fishing schooner Wadsworth brought in the body, picked up yesterday 25 miles east of Highland Light and west of the Georges fishing banks.

The body was found in the bottom of a dory that was riding the waves as light and tight as if under a fireman's hand. In the stern stood a lamp, a pole with a piece of red cloth to it, a marker of distress. The body was badly emaciated. By its side were the bones of several fishes, picked clean. Capt. Hopkins of the Wadsworth said the extent of emaciation indicated that the man had been starved to death. He had been dead about a week, and it was only after death delivered the man from his troubles. The man was well dressed and about 40 years of age. He appeared to be about forty-five years of age.

## Will Duke of Marlborough Join Miss Gladys Deacon's Line of 'Might-Have-Beens'

Malign Fate Seems to Bar Boston's Super-Beauty From Marriage Altar.

WAS 10 TIMES 'ENGAGED'

Her Life a Succession of Romances and Broken Betrothals.

**Marguerite Mooers Marshall.** Is the feeling fancy of America's most engaged girl, Miss Gladys Deacon, caught at last? Or is Miss Deacon destined to add the Duke of Marlborough, former husband of Consuelo Vanderbilt, to her line of might-have-beens?

Such a suggestion would seem uncalled for the very day after the announcement of her engagement to the Duke—the story of whose unsuccessfull first marriage, ending recently in a divorce after years of separation, has been a topic of perennial interest to Americans—were it not that some malign fate seems to intervene between beautiful Miss Deacon and the marriage altar whenever there is a report that she will approach it. In the score or so of years during which European society bowed under the irresistible charm of the eldest daughter of the late Edward Parker Deacon of Boston, that society has had Gladys engaged and disengaged no less than ten times, according to the published records, and not counting the Marlborough engagement of date current.

As the older social agencies will remember, Miss Deacon's parents were involved in a tragically tangled romance but for which she herself might never have entered upon her career as modern Europe's most notable heartbreaker. For her long residence abroad, her training in high society, her constant membership of the separation between her father and mother after he shot dead at Cannes a Parisian clubman, Mr. Ash, who had been a constant visitor at the Deacon home. Mr. Deacon returned to America and later was committed to a hospital for the insane. Mrs. Deacon remained in England, and Gladys and her sisters lived with their mother. Therefore, at her debut, she became a member of the smartest sets in London and Paris.

The first engagement of this tall, willowy blonde beauty was reported in the spring of 1901. When Miss Gladys was in her late teens, Prince No. 1 was Claude Lowther, called the handsomest man in England.

Six months later, Claude must have been a broken man. He was a woman, for news came to New York from Biarritz that Miss Gladys Deacon was betrothed to the young prince of the Hohenzollerns, a rich relative of the Kaiser.

The following year, in 1902, it was reported that Lord Francis Hope, a peerage, would pop the question to Miss Gladys just as soon as he finished getting his divorce from May Vane, who had run off with his brother, the Duke of Devonshire, son of the late Mayor Strong of New York. Perhaps Lord Hope did propose, but he was not the man for Gladys Deacon, and he ended by marrying some one else.

In 1902 it was reported that the then Crown Prince of Germany was engaged with this super-beauty of Boston, and that he was willing to renounce the succession to the throne in order to marry her. Apparently, this report was not even dignified by this report, for it was denied vigorously, and only last autumn she won a third verdict from a London paper, which asserted that she was engaged to marry the Duke of Norfolk, not long after the wedding with the romance with the Crown Prince.

If Miss Deacon became the second American Duchess of Marlborough, it would not be her first opportunity to wear strawberry leaves, if the gossip is to be believed. They had been about to marry the Duke of Norfolk, not long after the wedding with the romance with the Crown Prince. If she had become Norfolk's duchess, she would have said to her husband, "I have been married to you for twenty years, but I have never loved you."

Next? Oh, he was another Englishman, Lord Brooke, a young, good-looking, of the inner circle at court. People really believed that Miss Deacon had lost her heart at last, but it was a false alarm.

About this time her engagement to James Hazen Hyde was announced and promptly broken off. Then came Baron Antoine de Charette, young, good-looking, wealthy, of a fine French family—altogether, one of the most desirable matches in Europe fifteen years ago. In 1908, it was definitely asserted that a marriage had been arranged between him and the all-conquering American girl. The marriage never took place, however.

In 1910 an Italian, Prince Roffredo Castani, younger son of the Duke of Salaparuta, was reported to be desperately in love with Miss Deacon. The next thing the matchmakers knew, Miss Deacon had gone off to Paris and another love affair was off.

In 1911 an announcement was made of the approaching marriage of Miss Deacon to Lord Fitzroy, Marquis of the Norfolk. However, a August of that year another announcement was made that the marriage had been postponed owing to Miss Deacon's name coupling with Marlborough's eight years ago.

In 1915 The Times correspondent in London referred to the fact that the Duke of Marlborough had become Miss Deacon's admirer, "which contributed to the unfortunate difference between him and his Duchess." At the time it also was announced that Miss Deacon was about to open a bachelor maid establishment in London.

## U. S. TO HOLD \$30,000,000 RUM AUCTION HERE

Contraband Seized Under Volstead Act to Be Sold or Given Away Soon.

Uncle Sam will soon hold the greatest auction of wet goods in the world, selling under the hammer about \$30,000,000 worth of bonded liquor, confiscated here since the Volstead act became effective. If \$5,000,000 is realized the Government will be happy.

But this auction will be semi-private. The man with a thirst will not get an opportunity to participate, except possibly as a mournful spectator. The only bidders will be persons licensed to deal in alcohol or have it in their possession. Some of the liquor may be given to hospitals if there are no bidders.

The principal reason for the auction is that the big warehouse where the liquor is stored is crowded. In this glorified barn is every kind of intoxicant known in the dry era.

## Wrote News in Advance Of Killing of 7 if Demand For \$5,000 Be Refused

Edward A. Metzler Arrested For Sending Threat to Kill to Brokerage Firm.

SAYS HE WAS ROBBED.

Outlines Form of Newspaper Article That Would Probably Tell of the Tragedy.

Edward A. Metzler, thirty-three years old, a civil engineer living at No. 164 East 118th Street, arraigned before Magistrate Renaud in the Central Court today, confessed the authorship of two strange threatening letters written to Louis M. Kardos, Jr., member of the brokerage firm of Kardos & Burke, No. 32 Broadway. A partner in this firm is John Burke, formerly United States Treasurer.

This is the first letter which was read in court, signed with full name of Metzler and giving his address:

"Do you know why the idea in my mind is hourly growing in momentum to kill my enemy? It is caused not by Wall Street losses but by my debts, which are forcing my wife, four children and myself into the gutter."

"I owe a \$250 mortgage on my home, which was due May 15, \$100 to my mother, \$100 to my sister, \$600 to my brother, and a \$200 insurance premium."

"There are two means to get this money. First by dying, and my wife will collect \$500. The other is by getting \$5000 from you."

"If I choose the first method it will be at 32 Broadway (the address of the brokerage firm) and I am not going alone. I prefer you, or one of your help, to put me away. I have left three complete statements, one for the press, one for my family and one for the District Attorney, showing how Kardos & Burke robbed me of \$17000."

"There will be no further of my last, as I have a dagger ready, and will bring the sign to you, promising delay means sure death. If you will, proof look up my police record in the Third Detective Bureau."

"The second letter was apparently an effort of the imagination to give a New York newspaper account of the situation threatened in the first letter. It began with penciled headings: "SEVEN SHOT DEAD IN BROKER'S OFFICE."

"Customer Chased by Over \$17,000 Loan Housed at Rattle Gate Tower With Two Automobiles."

"IS SHOT DEAD HIMSELF"

"The dead are: Mr. M. Kardos, Jr., Edward A. Metzler."

The names for the last five names were not given.

Metzler was arrested at his home today by Detectives Fleming and Kufelsch, to whom Kardos had written these letters. The prisoner seemed perfectly calm when arraigned.

"I sent the letters," he said, "I wrote them. I will tell you why. Last December, after selling two landings, I invented the money, \$17,000, in and out of my pocket, and I gave it to this brokerage firm to dispose of them for me. That was in December. I have never been able to get an accounting."

Magistrate Renaud said he was impressed by the story and asked that the District Attorney make a thorough investigation. He directed that Metzler be held in jail for five days and released on \$500 bail.

Counsel for the brokerage firm said that Metzler had transferred all of his money to the firm, but never had amounted to more than \$275.

## HIP FRISKERS LAW BREAKERS, DECLARES COURT

Magistrate Tells Cops They Violate Constitution When They Do It.

Policemen, Burns and Weissman of the West 123d Street Station received a lesson in constitutional law in Men's Night Court last night, when they arraigned Joseph Clarke, forty-nine, of No. 214 East 45th Street for an alleged liquor violation.

"How did you get the evidence?" asked Magistrate Corrigan.

"We frisked him and secured this flask from his hip pocket," replied one.

"You frisked?" said the Magistrate.

"Do you not know that that is a violation of the Constitution of the United States? It is a violation of personal liberty. I am in favor of the law being enforced, but I cannot see why your superiors give such instructions as to stick your hands in people's pockets. I am in favor of laws being enforced, but not at such ridiculous lengths."

The Magistrate held the defendant in \$100 bail for further examination.

## LOST RADIUM WORTH \$6,000 IN FURNACE

Zinc Sulphide, in Darkened Cellar, Traces Tube Thrown Out With Old Bandages.

Recovery of a tiny tube containing fifty milligrams of radium, valued at \$6,000, which became mixed with bandages in a physician's office and was thrown away, was announced today by Arthur Rader, No. 58 Pine Street, manager of the radium information service. Zinc sulphide was used to locate the tube, finally found in a furnace in the cellar.

Dr. W. E. Falcon of Jersey City used the precious stuff in treating a case on Wednesday and thought he had put it away. When he looked for it late yesterday for another patient, he could not find it. Suspecting that it may have become mixed with discarded bandages, he called for A. Strobel, expert of the Radium Luminous Material Corporation at Orange.

The expert sprinkled zinc sulphide all about the cellar and then turned the lights out. Soon the anxious watchers saw a small glowing patch among the piles of the furnace and carefully scooped it up. Probing, they found the tube of radium, which by its action had caused the zinc sulphide to become luminous.

## FISH PRICES TO BE POSTED.

Retail Dealers Complain of Alleged Combine by Wholesalers.

At a meeting today before Mrs. Louis Reed, a Deputy Market Commissioner, retail dealers in fresh water fish for the Jewish trade claimed that the wholesalers in Peck Slip Market have a combination to "fix" the market price and to hold back supplies in order to create a shortage. It was said that the surplus is then sold to passengers at prices that enable them to "beat" the regular market price.

The retailers claimed that they were obliged to buy without knowing the market price, so that if some one happened to sell a quantity of fish for less than the combine later bills the wholesale price to them.

After wholesalers denied the charges, Mrs. Reed said she would make a bulletin posted in the market showing the price of different species of fish and the wholesale quotations.

**Paper Mill Superintendents in Session.** The American Paper and Paper Mills Superintendents Association opened its annual convention in the Academy of Music last night.

Addresses were made by Fred C. Brown, President of the association, and papers were read by William Milburn, Phillips, Emmett and W. Condit.

The evening there was a dinner and entertainment in the grand ballroom.

**SEVEN SHOT DEAD IN BROKER'S OFFICE.**

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## AUTO DIVES OVER PALISADES CLIFF, BURNS ON GROUND

Brooklyn Man Believed Owner of Car in Mysterious Plunge at Woodcliff, N. J.

NO CLUE AND NO BODIES

Lawrence Kittinger, Said to Have Sold Machine, Not at Home.

A touring car plunged 100 feet over the Palisades at 40th Street, Woodcliff, N. J., early today, and burned on the ground where it fell. No bodies were found by the police, who searched under the charred framework and through the vicinity. They believe the machine was empty and think it may have been sent over purposely.

The automobile carried the license No. 214,491, N. Y., which was issued to Lawrence Kittinger, No. 116 Tenth Place, Brooklyn.

The fall was discovered after residents of the vicinity had seen the glare of the flames and noticed the police. An empty five-horsepower gasoline car was found at the top of the cliff and another similar car near the wreck.

There is an apartment hotel at the Tenth Place address. A woman was reached who said she was Mrs. Roan Kittinger, the mother of Lawrence Kittinger, and that her son is twenty-one years old. Although he does not live with her, he spent last night in her apartment.

She said her son took out a license for a car which was similar to the one that fell over the cliff. He sold it recently to a man, who made a first deposit of \$100. After receiving the \$100, she understood her son put the machine in a repair shop. She declined to tell where her son lived or where he could be reached.

## SHOOTS HIS WIFE, KILLS HIMSELF

Mrs. Van Winkle, Wounded in Forehead, Is in Hospital, but She May Live.

William Van Winkle shot his wife and then killed himself with a bullet in the head in Midland Park, N. J., according to information received by the county authorities at Hackensack today. The shooting occurred in the home of James Van Winkle, a carpenter, contractor, the father of William, on Gifford Road.

Mrs. Van Winkle was shot in the forehead and taken to the Memorial Hospital, Paterson. The bullet was extracted from her forehead and she may live.

The Van Winkles and their three children had been touring in Paterson when Van Winkle was a man, he believed was a negro, jump from the Manhattan Bridge. The body never came to the surface.

Harriet, a sister of William, James Allen of the Oak Street Station, and word was sent to the marine police. They grappled for the body, but were unsuccessful in locating it.

"Dear Mr. P. and Mother, also dear little Thomas, James and Frances. I am saying goodbye to you forever. I hope the children will grow up to be good and help grandpa and grandma as much as they can. Dear pa, please take these tickets and get take stuff before it is outlawed. Goodbye to Tommy and Mary, and Frances and all of friends to all."

A letter by Van Winkle found after the tragedy dated May 12 showed he had long contemplated the deed. The letter said:

"Dear Mr. P. and Mother, also dear little Thomas, James and Frances. I am saying goodbye to you forever. I hope the children will grow up to be good and help grandpa and grandma as much as they can. Dear pa, please take these tickets and get take stuff before it is outlawed. Goodbye to Tommy and Mary, and Frances and all of friends to all."

The cause of the tragedy is not known.

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## Mrs. Nott Begins Serving Her Life Sentence To-Day For Murder of Husband

Woman Rushed to State's Prison Immediately After Her Plea of "Guilty".



Mrs. GEORGE B. NOTT.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., June 3.—Mrs. Ethel Hutchins Nott, sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of her husband, will be indexed and fingerprinted today in the State Prison at Wethersfield, and will at once begin serving her sentence.

The sensational trial, in progress more than a week, ended with dramatic suddenness. The prisoner collapsed yesterday in the Sheriff's office. Her face drawn and gray, her eyes half closed, her lips sagging, she was almost carried to her cell, when court convened. She slumped down in her chair, a crumpled heap in black.

In support of his request that the court permit the plea to be changed, Mr. De Forest said Mrs. Nott "stood the stand freely and voluntarily as a witness for the State and helped convict Wade, whom we deem to be the real murderer in this case."

Judge Mattie asked State's Attorney Cummings what he had to say. Mr. Cummings said:

"If Your Honor please, the interposition of this offer presents some embarrassing features. Personally I am thoroughly convinced that Wade and Mrs. Nott were equally guilty. I am unable to differentiate in morals or in law between the offenses of these two people."

"I quite appreciate some of the moving reasons which might lead to the acceptance of a second degree plea. It is quite true there has been no proof of any overt act of violence by the defendant in connection with the death of Nott, but without entering into argument on that point, I stand here to say that in my solemn judgment Wade would never have been a murderer had it not been for the malign and wicked influence of this defendant. I leave the matter entirely in Your Honor's hands."

Judge Mattie then said:

"I must confess that I am moved by as little sympathy as it is possible for a person to feel for this accused. The thing which, to almost a determining extent, is in my mind about it, as it has been almost all this week, is the physical condition of the accused."

"I think not the least good that can come from it will be the thwarting of the despicable, morbid curiosity